



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture - Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service
100 Centennial Mall North Suite 298 - Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 - Phone: (402) 437-5541

Contact: Mark Harris (402) 437-5541

E-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

Web: www.usda.gov/nass/

NEBRASKA HOG INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT

LINCOLN, Neb., March 26, 2004--Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2004, was 2.85 million head, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. This was 2 percent below March 1, 2003 and December 1, 2003. Breeding inventory, at 360,000 head, was down 5 percent from March 1, 2003 and 3 percent below last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 2.49 million head, was 1 percent below last year and 2 percent below last quarter.

The December 2003-February 2004 Nebraska pig crop, at 1.56 million head, was 1 percent less than 2003 and 2 percent less than 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 175,000 head, 3 percent below last year.

Nebraska hog producers intend to have 175,000 sows farrow during the March-May 2004 quarter, down 5 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2003 and 2002. Intended farrowings for June-August 2004, at 175,000 sows, are 5 percent below the same period in 2003 but unchanged from 2002.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 2 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2004, was 59.3 million head. This was 2 percent above March 1, 2003, but 2 percent below December 1, 2003. Breeding inventory, at 5.92 million head, was down 2 percent from March 1, 2003, and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 53.4 million head, was 2 percent above last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

The December 2003 - February 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent more than 2003, and up slightly from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.81 million head, 2 percent above last year.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.85 million sows farrow during the March-May 2004 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2003, and 3 percent below 2002. Intended farrowings for June-August 2004, at 2.85 million sows, are 2 percent below the same period in 2003 and 1 percent below 2002.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/php-bb/2004/hgpg0304.pdf>